

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00826 01 OF 02 121210Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 IO-13 SSM-03 /115 W
-----031319 121245Z /50

R 121120Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5570
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
USCINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
COMSIXTHFLT
FOSIF ROTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 TRIPOLI 0826

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PINS, MPOL, LY
SUBJECT: QADHAFI SPEECH, AIR SHOW HIGHLIGHT JUNE 11 AMERICAN
EVACUATION FESTIVITIES

BEGIN SUMMARY: UNEXCEPTIONAL BUT SPIRITED AND SHORT QADHAFI
SPEECH AND AN AIR SHOW AT WHAT USED TO BE WHEELUS AIR BASE
HIGH POINTS OF EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF "AMERICAN EVACUATION" DAY.
TRIPOLI CELEBRATIONS FOLLOW BUSY SCHEDULE OF FESTIVITIES
WHICH INCLUDED OPENING OF WHAT WILL BE LIBYA'S THIRD MAJOR
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TRIPOL 00826 01 OF 02 121210Z

PORT AND NEW AIR BASE. ANTI-AMERICAN TONE OF EVENTS PRESENT
BUT MORE MUTED THAN IN PAST YEARS. END SUMMARY.

1. LIBYA'S MUAMAR AL-QADHAFI -- WEARING HIS MILITARY
UNIFORM AS SUPREME COMMANDER OF THE ARMED FORCES AND
CONTINUALLY RAPPING THE PODIUM WITH HIW SWAGGER STICK
TO CONTAIN INTERRUPTIONS -- DELIVERED A SPIRITED BUT

MERCIFULLY SHORT (20 MINUTES) SPEECH JUNE 11 AT UQBA BIN NAFI (FORMERLY WHEELUS) AIR BASE NEAR TRIPOLI CELEBRATING THE EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EVACUATION OF AMERICAN FORCES FROM LIBYA. MUCH OF QADHAFI'S EXTEMPORANEOUS ADDRESS WAS COUCHED IN CHAUVINISTIC RHETORIC WHICH SHARPLY ATTACKED THE FORMER AMERICAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN LIBYA AND THE PRE-1969 ROYALIST REGIME FOR PERMITTING IT. HE RECALLED THAT MAJOR JALUD WHO NEGOTIATED THE EVACUATION HAD REGRETTED THE EASY DEPARTURE OF THE AMERICANS BECAUSE A BLOODY STRUGGLE WOULD HAVE MADE THE EVENT MORE MEMORABLE. QADHAFI NOTED THAT LIBYA WAS NOW A STATE WITHOUT SENATORS, DEPUTIES OR MINISTERS -- A STATE WHERE "PEOPLE'S AUTHORITY" RULED AND WHERE "PEOPLE'S POWER" WAS BEING EXTENDED IN ALL FIELDS. TURNING TO PALESTINIAN THEMES, HE SAID THAT LIBYA'S ARMED FORCES WERE AT THE SERVICE OF THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION. HE ADDED THAT THERE WAS NO SOLUTION FOR THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM EXCEPT THE SOLUTION OF REVOLUTION AND FORCE. HE CONDEMNED THE "POLICY OF SURRENDER" AND SAID THAT THE CURRENT SITUATION DEMONSTRATED THAT THIS POLICY WAS BLOCKED.

2. ALL OF THE OTHER FOUR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT (WHICH SUPPLANTED THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL IN 1977) SHARED THE REVIEWING STAND WITH QADHAFI. LIBYAN NUMBER TWO ABD AL-SALAM JALUD SURFACED FOR THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 TRIPOL 00826 01 OF 02 121210Z

FIRST TIME SINCE JUNE 5 SEATED AT QADHAFI'S RIGHT SIDE. ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMANDER ABU BAKR YUNIS JABR AND POPULAR MILITIA HEAD MAJOR AL-KHUWALAYDI AL-HUMAYDI WERE ALSO PRESENT. FOREIGN VISITORS TO THE FESTIVITIES INCLUDED PALESTINIAN LEADERS YASIR ARAFAT, NAYIF HAWATMAH, AND PERHAPS ABU IYAD WHO WAS REPORTED TO BE IN TOWN. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEBANESE NATIONAL MOVEMENT AND THE NASIRIST "MIRABATIN" WERE ALSO IN ATTENDANCE. RADIO TRIPOLI NOTED THAT MUHAMMAD AL-AMIN OF POLISARIO ALSO ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI JUNE 10 TO ATTEND THE FESTIVITIES, BUT HE WAS NOT SEEN ON THE REVIEWING STAND. BENIN'S MINISTER OF INTERIOR ENJOYED A PROMINENT SEAT BETWEEN AL-HUMAYDI AND ABU BAKR YUNIS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00826 02 OF 02 121215Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 IO-13 SSM-03 /115 W
-----031349 121246Z /50

R 121120Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5571
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
USCINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
COMSIXTHFLT
FOSIF ROTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 TRIPOLI 0826

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

3. FOLLOWING QADHAFI'S SPEECH, THE ASSEMBLED AUDIENCE
AND TELEVISION VIEWERS WITNESSED THE MOST IMPRESSIVE
DISPLAY OF LIBYAN AIR POWER EVER PRESENTED. LARGE
NUMBERS OF MIG 21S AND 23S, MIRAGE 55, AND SEVERAL
TU-22 MEDIUM BOMBERS AND SUKHOI-22 "SWING-WING" LIGHT
BOMBERS PARTICIPATED. HIGH POINT OF THE AIR SHOW WAS
THE DEBUT OF THREE OF THE RECENTLY-ARRIVED FRENCH F-15S.
THE EXCITEMENT GENERATED BY THE APPEARANCE OF THESE AIR-
CRAFT CAUSED THE COMMENTATOR TO STATE REPEATEDLY THAT
THESE F-15S "HEREBY CHALLENGE THE REACTIONARIES F-15S."
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TRIPOL 00826 02 OF 02 121215Z

(ALTHOUGH THE AIR SHOW HAD LITTLE IN THE WAY OF AERIAL
ACROBATICS, THERE WERE MARKED DIFFERENCES IN THE SKILL OF
THE PILOTS WHICH RAISE SOME QUESTIONS AS TO THE NATION-
ALITY OF SOME OF THE CREWS.)

4. JUNE 11 IS AN OFFICIAL HOLIDAY IN LIBYA, AND ALL
SHOPS, AND OFFICES AND MANY EMBASSIES WERE CLOSED.
STREETS IN ALL CITIES AND TOWNS ARE FESTOONED WITH LIGHTS,

BANNERS, AND COLORFUL POSTERS ILLUSTRATING UNCLE SAM BEING BOOTED OUT OF LIBYA. GENERAL ANTI-AMERICAN CONTENT THIS YEAR IS RATHER LOW-KEYED, HOWEVER, AND THE BRITISH HAVE RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE CRITICISM FOR THEIR PAST "SINS" AS WELL.

5. QADHAFI DECLINED TO SPEAK AT EITHER THE OPENING OF THE NEW PORT AT MISRATA (LIBYA'S THIRD LARGEST) JUNE 8 OR AT THE INAUGURATION OF THE AIR BASE AT QIRDABIYAH JUNE 9 (TRIPOLI 0817 NOTAL). SECURITY AROUND THE LIBYAN LEADER WAS VERY TIGHT AND INCLUDED AN ARMED PHALANX OF SOLDIERS IN FRONT OF THE REVIEWING STAND DURING HIS SPEECH AND THE AIR SHOW WHICH FOLLOWED.

6. JUNE 12 EVACUATION DAY ACTIVITIES WILL BE CENTERED IN BENGHAZI, WHERE A POPULAR DEMONSTRATION AND FOLKLORIC PRESENTATION IS PLANNED. REPORTS THAT QADHAFI WOULD USE JUNE 11 AS AN OCCASION TO RE-INTRODUCE "WORKER POWER" IN SELECTED STORES AND COMPANIES IN FURTHER FULFILLMENT OF THE SECOND HALF OF HIS "GREEN BOOK" (AND IN REPETITION OF THE DISASTROUS 1972 EXPERIMENT IN THIS DIRECTION) APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN PREMATURE.
CARLE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIR SHOWS, COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS, EVACUATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TRIPOL00826
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780244-1238
Format: TEL
From: TRIPOLI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780668/aaaacgle.tel
Line Count: 192
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0139d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2382919
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: QADHAFI SPEECH, AIR SHOW HIGHLIGHT JUNE 11 AMERICAN EVACUATION FESTIVITIES BEGIN SUMMARY: UNEXCEPTIONAL BUT SPIRITED AND SHOR
TAGS: PINT, PINS, MPOL, LY, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0139d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014